

2014
HAPPY NEW YEAR

RoverNET

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EDITED BY BRUCE DUNCAN

rovernet@roverownersclub.com.au

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IN 2014 I RESOLVE TO BE LESS AWESOME SINCE THAT IS REALLY THE ONLY THING I DO IN EXCESS.

► SO YOU KNOW YOUR MOTORING – WELL, LET’S TRY YOU OUT !!

HOW THIS WORKS

Here are a number of items relating to motoring and motor vehicles. How many do you know the answers to?

Read the questions, write your answers on a sheet of paper and see how you fared. THEN highlight the answer boxes and click on BLACK in your letter colours area. All will be revealed.

QUESTIONS

ANSWERS

Q: What was the first official White House car?



Q: Who opened the first drive-in gas station?



Q: What city was the first to use parking meters?



Q: Where was the first drive-in restaurant?



A:

*Q: True or False?
The 1953 Corvette came in white, red and black.*



A:

Q: What was Ford's answer to the Chevy Corvette, and other legal street racers of the 1960's?



A:

Q: What was the first car fitted with an alternator, rather than a direct current dynamo?



A:

Q: What was the first car fitted with a replaceable cartridge oil filter?



A:

Q: What was the first car to be offered with a "perpetual guarantee"?



A:

Q: What American luxury automaker began by making cages for birds and squirrels?



A:

Q: What car first referred to itself as a convertible?



A:

Q: What car was the first to have its radio antenna embedded in the windshield?



A:

Q: What car used the first successful series-production hydraulic valve lifters?



A

Q: Where was the World's first three-color traffic lights installed?



A

Q: What type of car had the distinction of being GM's 100 millionth car built in the U.S. ?



A:

Q: Where was the first drive-in movie theatre opened, and when?



A:

Q: What autos were the first to use a standardized production key-start system?



A:

Q: What did the Olds designation 4-4-2 stand for?



A:

Q: What car was the first to place the horn button in the centre of the steering wheel?



A:

Q: What U.S. production car has the quickest 0-60 mph time?



A:

Q: What's the only car to appear simultaneously on the covers of Time and Newsweek?



A:

Q: What was the lowest priced mass produced American car?



A:

Q: What is the fastest internal-combustion American production car?



A:

Q: What automaker's first logo incorporated the Star of David?



A:

Q: Who wrote to Henry Ford, "I have drove fords exclusively when I could get away with one. It has got every other car skinned, and even if my business hasn't been strictly legal it don't hurt anything to tell you what a fine car you got in the V-8"?



(I really like this endorsement. Wonder why Ford didn't use it in their advertisements?)

Q: What car was the first production V12, as well as the first production car with aluminium pistons?



A:

Q: What was the first car to use power operated seats?



A:

Q: Which of the Chrysler "letter cars" sold the fewest amount?



A:

Q: What car company was originally known as Swallow Sidecars (aka SS)?



A:

Q: What car delivered the first production V12 engine?



A:

Q: When were seat belts first fitted to a motor vehicle?



A

Q: In January 1930, Cadillac debuted its V16 in a car named for a theatrical version of a 1920's film seen by Harley Earl while he was designing the body, What's that name?



A:

Q: Which car company started out German, yet became French after WWI?








A:

Q: In what model year did Cadillac introduce the first electric sunroof?



A:

<p><i>Q: What U.S. production car had the largest 4 cylinder engine?</i></p>		<p><i>A</i></p>
<p><i>Q: What car was reportedly designed on the back of a Northwest Airlines airsickness bag and released on April Fool's Day, 1970?</i></p>		<p><i>A:</i></p>
<p><i>Q: What is the Spirit of Ecstasy?</i></p>		<p><i>A:</i></p>
<p><i>Q: What was the inspiration for MG's famed octagon-shaped badge?</i></p>		<p><i>A:</i></p>
<p><i>Q: In what year did the "double-R" Rolls Royce badge change from red to black?</i></p>		<p><i>A:</i></p>

***How did you go ?
Perhaps it was too easy !!!***

► **AN EMAIL FROM OUR ROVER FRIENDS IN GERMANY**

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all the Australian Rover Friends!

Through RoverNET I learned a lot about Australian Rovers - thanks for this and for all the nice contacts to Australians I found.

Michael-Peter Boersig, Webmaster

Rover Freunde Deutschland e.V. (Rover Friends in Germany) WEB SITE <http://www.rover-freunde.de/>

PS I also like very much the Jokes in RoverNET.

► TWAS THE WEEK AFTER CHRISTMAS

Twass the week after Christmas and all through the house
Nothing would fit me, not even a blouse.

The cookies I'd nibbled, the eggnog I'd taste.
All the holiday parties had gone to my waist.

When I got on the scales there arose such a number!
When I walked to the store (less a walk than a lumber).

I'd remember the marvellous meals I'd prepared;
The gravies and sauces and beef nicely rared,

The wine and the rum balls, the bread and the cheese
And the way I'd never said, "No thank you, please."

As I dressed myself in my husband's old shirt
And prepared once again to do battle with dirt --

I said to myself, as I only can
"You can't spend a summer disguised as a man!"

So--away with the last of the sour cream dip,
Get rid of the fruitcake, every cracker and chip

Every last bit of food that I like must be banished
Till all the additional kilos have vanished.

I won't have a cookie--not even a lick.
I'll want only to chew on a long celery stick.

I won't have hot biscuits, or corn bread, or pie,
I'll munch on a carrot and quietly cry.

I'm hungry, I'm lonesome, and life is a bore --
But isn't that what January is for?

Unable to giggle, no longer a riot.
Happy New Year to all and to all a good diet!



► **ULTRASONIC SHIELDS MAY REPLACE WIPERS ON FUTURE MCLARENS - FROM AUTOWEEK DAILY DRIVE BY GRAHAM KOZAK**



A few weeks ago, the NHTSA issued a recall for [all McLaren MP4 12-Cs](#) originally sold or currently owned in Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas.

The reason? The combination of high heat and high humidity may cause wiper motor brushes to fail, something we imagine would be especially inopportune in the middle of a downpour. Just when you thought English engineers had figured out that whole on-board electronics thing ...

But McLaren may have hit upon a way to give the ghost of Lord Lucas the what-for for good, at least where windshield water removal is concerned. McLaren chief designer Frank Stephenson recently hinted that a piece of fighter jet-derived tech may make the jump to road cars, according to the [Sunday Times](#). (Similar information is available, subscription-free, at [The Daily Mail](#).)

The automaker is understandably tight-lipped about the specifics of the technology. But we know that it won't simply be fancy Rain-X. Supposedly, the system uses high-frequency sound waves, rather than a protective coating, to keep water and debris from contacting the glass. Presumably, some sort of ultrasonic generator could be attached to the glass of the windshield, which would then vibrate at the right frequency to keep the gunk away. It all sounds very sci-fi until you realize it's basically an electric toothbrush in reverse -- instead of using an ultrasonic brush to remove plaque, you use an ultrasonic windshield to prevent the road-plaque from adhering in the first place.

When you think about it, this sort of setup makes a lot of sense for fighter jets. Imagine wipers flapping away as you blast into the Danger Zone -- it would be silly even if it worked.

But there are a few reasons to go with a high-tech scheme like this on cars, as well. For one, a Junebug will leave one hell of a splatter mark at track speeds -- better to simply prevent the goop from reaching glass in the first place. Then there's the possibility of improved aerodynamics, which has the potential to enhance performance *and* fuel economy.

Seem trivial? Remember that automakers are also looking for ways to eliminate those pesky, obtrusive rear-view mirrors hanging off the side of your wind tunnel-sculpted car's body like a pair of drag chutes. Every little bit helps.

Most important, though -- especially for a low-volume, high-dollar manufacturer like McLaren -- is the novelty factor. Ultrasonic force fields practically market themselves, and the feature is a heck of a lot more useful (and a good measure less pretentious) than the [set of gold-plated roadside repair tools](#) McLaren tucked away in the F1.

Provided that it actually works, we wouldn't be surprised if the technology made its way onto cars for the masses.

Can't say that about gold crescent wrenches !!

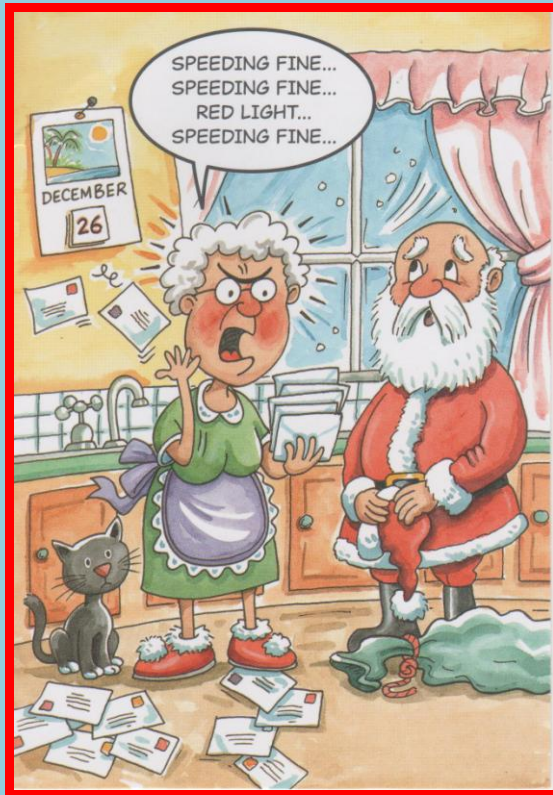
**There will not be any RoverNET until next year
when some semblance of normality may have returned.**

► AND FINALLY – CERTAINLY FOR 2013

Thank you to the many members who have contributed to RoverNET during 2013. If your joke has not been used yet just be patient. If you advertised something for sale or something to buy I hope your advertisement was successful. If you have not used this medium to reach Roverphiles around the world just send me an email and we will include you in this weekly e-bulletin.

Have a Happy and Prosperous New Year but especially a safe one. Remember all the car accidents happen on the roads so play it safe. Drive on the foot path!!!!!!

Bruce Duncan RoverNET Editor



UNTIL NEXT YEAR